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REGULATIONS

FOR

THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

[AS AMENDED TO THE 18TH MARCH, 1854.]

OF THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY GENERALLY, AND OF ITS MEMBERS.

ARTICLE I.—The ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND is instituted for the investigation and encouragement of Arts, Sciences, and Literature, in relation to Asia.

ARTICLE II.—The Society consists at present of *Resident*, *Non-resident*, *Honorary*, *Foreign*, and *Corresponding* Members; but henceforth no Members shall be elected except as *Resident*, *Non-resident* or *Honorary* Members.

ARTICLE III.—Members, whose place of abode is in Great Britain or Ireland, are considered to be *Resident*.

ARTICLE IV.—Those whose usual abode is not in Great Britain or Ireland, are considered to be *Non-resident*.

ARTICLE V.—Foreigners of distinction, or any persons who have contributed to the attainment of the objects of the Society in a distinguished manner, are eligible as *Honorary* Members.

ARTICLE VI.—All the Members of the Society, of whatever denomination, must be elected at the General Meetings of the Society, in the manner hereinafter described.

ARTICLE VII.—*Honorary* Members, when residing in England, have a right of admission to the Meetings, Library, and Museum of the Society; but are not eligible to its offices, nor entitled to copies of the Journal.

MODE OF ELECTING THE MEMBERS.

ARTICLE VIII.—Any person desirous of becoming a *Resident* or *Non-resident* Member of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, must be proposed by Three or more subscribing Members, on a certificate of recommendation, declaring his name and usual place of abode.

ARTICLE IX.—Every recommendation of a Candidate proposed for election, whether as a *Resident* or *Non-resident* Member, shall be read at two successive General Meetings of the Society, and after the first reading, the certificate shall remain suspended in the Meeting-room of the Society till the ballot for the election takes place, which will be immediately after the second reading of the certificate.—Except in the cases of the Members of Branch Societies, who are eligible for immediate ballot.

ARTICLE X.—The Council may, upon special grounds, propose to a General Meeting the election of any Foreigner of distinction, or any person who shall have contributed to the attainment of the objects of the Society in a distinguished manner, to be elected an *Honorary* Member of the Society; and upon such proposition the Society shall proceed to an immediate ballot.

ARTICLE XI.—No candidate shall be considered as elected, unless he has in his favour the votes of three-fourths of the Members present who vote.

ARTICLE XII.—The election of every candidate shall be entered on the minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting at which he is elected; but should it appear, upon inspecting the ballot, that the person proposed is not elected, no mention thereof shall be inserted in the minutes.

ARTICLE XIII.—When a candidate is elected a *Resident* or *Non-resident* Member of the Society, the Secretary shall inform him of his election by letter.

ARTICLE XIV.—To an *Honorary* Member there shall be transmitted, as soon as may be after his election, a Diploma, under the seal of the Society, signed by the President, Director, and Secretary.

OF BRANCH SOCIETIES AND THEIR MEMBERS.

ARTICLE XV.—Literary and Scientific Societies established in Asia may be admitted, by a vote of a Special General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Council, to be Branch Societies of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

ARTICLE XVI.—Members of the Branch Societies, while on furlough, or otherwise temporarily resident in England, shall be admitted to the Meetings of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, on the footing of *Honorary* Members. If desirous of becoming *Non-resident* or *Resident* Members, they shall be eligible at a General Meeting, by immediate ballot, and they

will be required to make the payments directed by Articles XXXV. and XXXVII.

ARTICLE XVII.—The following Societies are declared to be Branch Societies of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE LITERARY SOCIETY OF BOMBAY;
THE LITERARY SOCIETY OF MADRAS;
THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF CEYLON;
THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF HONG-KONG.

OF THE COUNCIL AND OFFICERS, AND OF COMMITTEES.

ARTICLE XVIII.—There shall be a Council of Fifteen *Resident* Members, besides the Officers, constituted for the management and direction of the affairs of the Society.

ARTICLE XIX.—The Officers of the Society shall form a part of the Council, and shall consist of a President, a Director, the Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and a Librarian.

ARTICLE XX.—The President of the Society shall be appointed for a period of Three years, from the Annual Meeting at which he may have been elected; or in the event of his appointment taking place at an intermediate period, then for Three years from the next ensuing annual General Meeting; and he shall be re-eligible at an interval of one year after vacating the office. The Vice-Presidents henceforth elected shall hold their office for the same period and on the same terms as the President. The Council and Officers, (except the President and Vice-Presidents,) shall be elected annually by ballot, at the Anniversary Meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE XXI.—Five Members of the Council shall go out annually, three by seniority and two by reason of least attendance, and five new Members shall be elected in their places, from the body of the Society.

ARTICLE XXII.—The Council shall have the power of provisionally filling up vacancies in its own body, occasioned by resignation or death.

ARTICLE XXIII.—The Council shall meet once in every month, or oftener, during the Session.

ARTICLE XXIV.—The Council shall be summoned, under the sanction and authority of the President or Director, or, in their absence, of one of the Vice-Presidents, by a circular letter from the Secretary.

ARTICLE XXV.—At any Meeting of the Council, *Five Members* of it being present shall constitute a *quorum*.

ARTICLE XXVI.—Committees for the attainment of specific purposes within the scope of the Society's views, may, from time to time, be appointed by the Council, to whom their reports shall be submitted previously to their being presented at a Special, or at an Anniversary Meeting of the Society.

FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS.

ARTICLE XXVII.—The functions of the PRESIDENT are, to preside at Meetings of the Society, and of the Council; to conduct the proceedings, and preserve order; to state and put Questions, according to the sense and intention of the Members assembled; to give effect to the Resolutions of the Meeting; and to cause the Regulations of the Society to be put in force.

ARTICLE XXVIII.—The functions of the DIRECTOR are twofold, *general* and *special*. His general functions are those of a *Presiding officer*, being next in rank to the President; by virtue of which he will preside at Meetings when the President is absent, and discharge his duties. His special functions relate to the department of Oriental Literature, which is placed under his particular care and superintendence.

ARTICLE XXIX.—The duties of the VICE-PRESIDENTS are, to preside at the Meetings of the Society and of the Council, when the Chair is not filled by the President or Director; and to act for the President on all occasions when he is absent, and when his functions are not undertaken by the Director.

ARTICLE XXX.—The TREASURER will receive on account of and for the use of the Society, all moneys due to it, and make payments out of the funds of the Society, according to directions from the Council.

ARTICLE XXXI.—The Treasurer's Accounts shall be audited annually, previously to the Anniversary Meeting of the Society. The Council shall, for that purpose, name three Auditors, of whom two shall be taken from the Society at large, and the third shall be a Member of the Council. The Auditors shall report to the Society, at its Anniversary Meeting, on the state in which they have found the Society's funds.

ARTICLE XXXII.—The functions of the SECRETARY are the following:—

He shall attend the Meetings of the Society, and of the Council, and record their proceedings. At the General Meetings he will read the Papers that have been selected by the Council; unless any Member obtain permission from the Chairman to read a Paper that he has communicated to the Society.

He shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, and of the Council.

He shall superintend the persons employed by the Society; subject, however, to the control and superintendence of the Council.

He shall, under the direction and control of the Council, superintend the Expenditure of the Society. He shall be competent, on his own responsibility, to discharge small bills; but any account exceeding the sum of Five Pounds shall previously be submitted to the Council, and, if approved, be paid by an order of the Council, entered on the Minutes.

He shall have the charge, under the direction of the Council, of printing and publishing the Transactions of the Society.

ARTICLE XXXIII.—If the Secretary shall, at any time, by illness, or any other cause, be prevented from attending to the duties of his office, the Council shall authorize the Assistant-Secretary, or request one of its Members to discharge his functions, till he shall himself be able to resume them.

ARTICLE XXXIV.—The LIBRARIAN shall have the charge and custody of all books, manuscripts, and other objects of learning or curiosity, of which the Society may become possessed, whether by donation, bequest, or purchase; and apartments shall be appropriated, in which those objects may be safely deposited and preserved.

ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PAYMENTS WHICH ARE TO BE MADE TO THE SOCIETY BY THE MEMBERS.

ARTICLE—XXXV.—Every *Resident* Member is required to pay at his election the sum of THREE GUINEAS as his first Annual Subscription; unless his election shall take place in November or December, in which case the first annual payment shall not be due till the succeeding January: —and in every succeeding year he shall pay an Annual Subscription of Three Guineas.

The following compositions are allowed, in lieu of Annual Subscriptions:—

Upon election	Thirty Guineas.
After two Annual Payments	Twenty-five Guineas.
After four or more Annual Payments	Twenty Guineas.

ARTICLE XXXVI.—Any person elected as a *Resident* Member of the Society, who shall proceed to reside in any place out of Great Britain, shall not be required to continue his Annual Subscription of Three Guineas while so absent. But he shall contribute an Annual Subscription of One Guinea, and shall be entitled to receive the Society's Journal.

ARTICLE XXXVII.—Any person elected a *Non-resident* Member of the Society, shall pay an Annual Subscription of One Guinea. If he subsequently become permanently resident in Great Britain or Ireland, he shall be required to pay the Annual Subscription of Three Guineas, or the regulated composition in lieu thereof, as a *Resident* Member.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.—*Honorary* Members shall not be liable to any contribution.

ARTICLE XXXIX.—Every person elected a *Resident* Member of the Society shall make the payment due from him within two calendar months after the date of his election; or, if elected a *Non-resident* Member, within twelve calendar months after his election; otherwise his election shall be void; unless the Council, in any particular case, shall decide on extending the period within which such payments are to be made.

ARTICLE XL.—Annual subscriptions shall be paid to the Treasurer on the first day of January in each year; and in case the same should not be paid by the end of that month, the Treasurer is authorized to demand the same. If any subscriptions remain unpaid at the Anniversary Meeting of the Society, the Secretary shall apply, by letter, to those Members who are

in arrears. If the arrears be not discharged by the first of January following such application, the Subscriber's name, as a defaulter, shall be suspended in the Meeting-room, and due notice be given him of the same. The name shall remain suspended, unless in the interval the arrears be discharged, until the Anniversary Meeting next ensuing; when, if the Subscription be not paid, it shall be publicly announced that the defaulter is no longer a Member of the Society, and the reason shall be assigned.

Article XLI.—The Publications of the Society shall not be forwarded to any Member, whose Subscription for the current year remains unpaid.

Article XLII.—The Resignation of no Member shall be received until he has sent in a written declaration, and has paid up all his arrears of Subscription.

OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

Article XLIII.—The Meetings of the Society, to which all the Members have admission, and at which the general business of the Society is transacted, are termed General Meetings.

Article XLIV.—At these Meetings, the Chair shall be taken by the President, or, in his absence, either by the Director or one of the Vice-Presidents; or, should these Officers also be absent, by a Member of the Council.

Article XLV.—*Ten Members* being present, the Meeting shall be considered as constituted.

Article XLVI.—The General Meetings of the Society shall be held on the *first* and *third Saturday* in every month, from the third Saturday of November to the first Saturday of July, both inclusive; excepting the Saturdays preceding Easter and Whit Sundays and Christmas-day.

Article XLVII.—The business of the General Meetings shall be, the proposing of candidates, the election and admission of Members, the acceptance and acknowledgment of Donations, and the reading of Papers communicated to the Society on subjects of science, literature, and the arts, in connexion with Asia.

Article XLVIII.—Nothing relative to the regulations, management, or pecuniary affairs of the Society shall be introduced and discussed at General Meetings, unless the Meeting shall have been declared *special* in the manner hereinafter provided.

Article XLIX.—Every Member of the Society has the privilege of introducing, either personally or by a card, one or two visitors at a General Meeting, whose names shall be notified to the Chairman or Secretary.

Article L.—The admission of a new Member may take place at any General Meeting. When he has subscribed the Obligation-Book, the President, or whoever fills the Chair, standing up, shall take him by the hand, and say:—"*In the name and by the authority of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, I admit you a Member thereof.*"

ARTICLE LI.—The Obligation-Book is intended to form a record, on the part of the Members (by means of the signature of their names in their own hand-writing), of their having entered into the Society, with an engagement that they will promote the interests and welfare of the Society, and submit to its Regulations and Statutes.

ARTICLE LII.—The Council may at any time call a *Special Meeting* of the Society, on giving fourteen days' notice, to consider and determine any matter of interest that may arise, to pass, abrogate, or amend regulations, and to fill up the vacancy of any office occasioned by death or resignation. No other business shall be brought forward besides that which has been notified.

ARTICLE LIII.—Such Special Meetings shall also be convened by the Council on the written requisition of *Five Members* of the Society, setting forth the proposal to be made, or the subject to be discussed.

ARTICLE LIV.—Notice of Special Meetings shall be given to every Member residing within the limits of the London District of the Post-office; apprising him of the time of the Meeting, and of the business which is to be submitted to its consideration.

ARTICLE LV.—The course of business, at *General Meetings*, shall be as follows:—

1. Any specific and particular business which the Council may have appointed for the consideration of the Meeting, and of which notice has been given according to Article LIV., shall be discussed.
2. The names of strangers introduced shall be read from the Chair.
3. The Minutes of the preceding Meeting shall be read by the Secretary, and signed by the Chairman.
4. Donations presented to the Society shall be announced or laid before the Meeting.
5. Certificates of recommendation of Candidates shall be read.
6. New Members shall be admitted.
7. Ballots for new Members shall take place.
8. Papers and communications shall be read.

ARTICLE LVI.—The Anniversary Meeting of the Society shall be held on the third *Saturday* in *May*, to receive and consider a Report of the Council on the state of the Society; to receive the Report of the Auditors on the Treasurer's Accounts; to elect the Council and Officers for the ensuing year; to enact or repeal Regulations; and to deliberate on such other questions as may be proposed relative to the affairs of the Society.

OF THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY.

ARTICLE LVII.—Communications and Papers read to the Society shall, from time to time, be published under the title of *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.*

ARTICLE LVIII.—All *Resident* and *Non-resident* Members of the Society are entitled to receive the parts or volumes of the *Journal* published subsequently to their election; and to purchase, at an established reduced price, such volumes or parts as may have been previously published.

ARTICLE LIX.—The Council is authorised to present copies of the *Journal* to learned Societies and distinguished individuals.

ARTICLE LX.—Every original communication presented to the Society becomes its property; but the author, or contributor, may republish it twelve months after its publication by the Society. The Council may publish any original communication presented to the Society, in any way and at any time judged proper; but if printed in the Society's *Journal*, twenty-five copies of it shall be presented to the author or contributor, when the Volume or Part in which it is inserted is published. Any Paper which the Council may not see fit to publish, may, with its permission, be returned to the Author, upon the condition that, if it be published by him a printed copy of it shall be presented to the Society.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

ARTICLE LXI.—Every person who shall contribute to the Library or Museum, or to the General Fund of the Society, shall be recorded as a Benefactor, and the gift shall be acknowledged in a letter from the Secretary, and recorded in the Society's *Journal*.

ARTICLE LXII.—Every Member of the Society shall be at liberty to borrow the books of the Society, whether printed or manuscript, on giving a receipt for the same, and under such rules as shall be settled by the Council. But no books belonging to the Society shall be taken out of the Society's house, without a receipt from the Member borrowing. No models, plans, or papers shall be taken out of the Library, without a written authority from the Librarian or Secretary. No stranger shall be allowed the use of the Library without the permission of the Council.

ARTICLE LXIII.—The Museum shall be open daily for the admission of the public (except on Saturdays and the usual holidays), between the hours of eleven and four, either by the personal or written introduction of Members, or by tickets, which may be obtained by Members at the Society's House.

ARTICLE LXIV.—Whereas the Royal Asiatic Society has been established exclusively for the purpose of science and literature, and its funds have been devoted entirely to such purpose, it is hereby declared that it is wholly inconsistent with the objects, laws, constitution, and practice of the Society, that any division or bonus in money should be made unto or between any of its Members; and it is hereby ordered that the Royal Asiatic Society shall not, and may not make any dividend, gift, or bonus in money, unto or between any of its Members.